

STAFF SUMMARY SHEET

TO	ACTION	SIGNATURE (Surname), GRADE AND DATE	TO	ACTION	SIGNATURE (Surname), GRADE AND DATE
1	A/LG	Info	6	A/CC	Info
		Copy Provided			
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5	A/CV	Info	10		

SURNAME OF ACTION OFFICER AND GRADE	SYMBOL	PHONE	TYPIST'S INIT	SUSPENSE DATE
Warcruyse, Major	XPDS	3054	cb	None

SUBJECT	DATE
Air Force Council Review of ASAT Program (U)	27 FEB 1980

SUMMARY

1. In preparation for a DSMRC ASAT review in late April, the Air Force Council convened on 21 Feb to select an Air Force preferred position. The key issues addressed were:

a. Should the program be structured to field a "normal" weapon system (technical orders, training equipment, reliability/maintainability standards, etc.) or something less (contractor maintained, very limited training and support equipment waiver of some military standards)?

b. Is a slip in IOC from FY85 to FY87 or FY88 acceptable? This slip is necessary to keep within available FY80 and 81 funds.

2. Three options were presented to the Council:

a. Option 1 was specifically designed to stay within the funding available in the President's proposed FY 81-85 budget. This option was not seriously examined because it represented a very high risk approach to the ASAT development. This risk was caused by the required design and testing shortcuts needed to stay within budget.

b. Option 2 would continue a "prototype" development through limited flight test, have a short deficiency correction phase after flight test, and field a highly contractor dependent weapon system.

- (1) No technical orders (other than F-15 pilot data).
- (2) No weapon or maintenance simulators (other than modification of F-15 trainer).
- (3) Limited reliability/maintainability demonstrations.
- (4) Full contractor maintenance.
- (5) IOC in FY 87.

Option 3 would more closely approximate a normal weapon system development. Specifically, it will meet the minimum AFTRC flight test requirement, have a full scale development phase after flight test, and field a normally supported weapon system.

- (1) Full "blue suit" maintenance at base level/normal technical order development.
- (2) Improved reliability/maintainability.
- (3) Program Management Responsibility transfer to AFTRC at/near IOC.
- (4) IOC in FY88.

It should be noted that none of the options presented would maintain the FY85 IOC milestone contained in the current PMD.

3. Since ADC will not receive a copy of the Council minutes, the following observations are based on notes taken during the discussion:

- a. Because less than 100 weapons are likely to be produced, it appears appropriate to waive the normal AF maintenance and operation procedures and rely on a skunk works concept.
- b. The Air Force will have to dedicate some F-15s for this mission (possibly shared with CONUS Air Defense). Specifically, these aircraft cannot remain part of General Purpose Forces subject to overseas deployment.
- c. Option 2 seems appropriate for this application, but the number of flight tests should be increased to 13 prior to a DSARC III. This will be done by taking 3 of the 5 missiles intended for a Limited Operational Capability and using them for flight tests.
- d. Although no one from TAC was at the Council meeting, it was reported that they supported Option 2.
- e. Although not explicitly discussed, it seemed clear that the IOC slip to FY 87 was considered more acceptable than any increase in funding to maintain a FY 85 IOC.

CONCLUSION

4. At the upcoming DSARC review, the Air Force will probably recommend a "prototype" development prior to a production decision. The weapon system will be deployed as a type of "skunk works" operation with primary reliance on contractor maintenance and non-standard hardware. LOC in FY 85 will be composed of 1 test aircraft and 2 missiles. IOC will occur in FY 87.

5. It is possible that Dr. Mark will review and/or redirect this course of action, but there is no plan to present the briefing to him.

ORIGINAL SIGNED

WILLIAM F. LINDEMAN, BrigGen, USAF
DCS Plans Policy Programs
and Requirements